SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

Approved May 16, 2002.

CHAPTER 496

(House Bill 177)

AN ACT concerning

Crimes - Felony Theft - Penalties

FOR the purpose of altering the maximum fine for persons convicted of felony theft; and generally relating to theft.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Criminal Law

Section 7-104(g)(1)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(As enacted by Chapter 26 (H.B. 11) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Criminal Law

7-104.

- (g) (1) A person convicted of theft of property or services with a value of \$500 or more is guilty of a felony and:
- (i) is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 15 years or a fine not exceeding [\$1,000] \$25,000 or both; and
- $\rm (ii) \quad shall \ restore \ the \ property \ taken \ to \ the \ owner \ or \ pay \ the \ owner \ the \ value \ of \ the \ property \ or \ services.$

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2002.

Approved May 16, 2002.